

The China Mail.

Established February, 1845.

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號七月七日一千八百八十一英

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, JULY 7, 1881.

日二十一年己酉

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

Notices of Firms.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

DURING my Absence from Hongkong, Mr. ROBERT COOKE will act as SECRETARY.

By Order of the Board,

D. GILLIES,
Secretary.

Hongkong, June 13, 1881.

21181

AUCTIONS.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from H.M. NAVAL STOREKEEPER to Sell by Public Auction, on

FRIDAY,

the 8th July, 1881, at Noon, at H.M. Naval Yard.

SUNDRY CONDEMNED NAVAL AND VICTUALLING STORES, comprising—

OLD IRON.

EMPTY CASES.

OLD BISCUITS.

SAUER, &c., &c.

TERMS OF SALE.—As customary.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Government Auctioneer.

Hongkong, June 30, 1881.

21181

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, on

FRIDAY,

the 8th July, 1881, at 2 p.m., at the Upper Floor of No. 15A, Queen's Road Central.—

THE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c.,

late belonging to

W. R. LANDSTEIN, Deceased,

comprising—

ENGLISH-MADE WALNUT DRAWING-ROOM SUITE.

BOMBAY BLACKWOOD CARVED ROUND TABLE, SIDE TABLES, SOFA, EASY CHAIRS AND MUSIC STAND.

OLD CANTON BLACKWOOD BOOK SHELVES, BOOK CASES, TABLES, TEAPOS, STOOLS, AND WASHTAND.

OLY PAINTINGS, WATER COLOURS, BRONZE GANASERS AND GAN BRACKETS, AND MARBLE CLOCK.

GLASSWARE AND PLATED WARE.

ENGLISH-MADE MARBLE-TOP GLASS BOOK-CASE AND DRAWERS.

ENGLISH-MADE MAHOGANY WRITING TABLE, CHEVAL GLASS, AND CHAIRS.

ENGLISH-MADE WALNUT BEDROOM SUITE.

1 POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM, containing a very fine collection of Stamps.

BOOK OF ETCHINGS, by Chinnery, with a Portrait of the Painter.

ETC., ETC., ETC.

Catalogues will be issued, and the whole to be on view on and after Tuesday, the 5th July.

TERMS OF SALE.—As customary.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, June 30, 1881.

21181

For Sale.

FOR SALE.

VALVOLINE-CYLINDER OIL.

THIS Oil is a lubricant for the Valves and Cylinders of Steam Engines, and is free from the objections which exist against the use of tallow or vegetable oils.

J. M. ARMSTRONG.

Hongkong, June 27, 1881.

21181

FOR SALE.

7 DWELLING HOUSES, in WYNDHAM STREET, Nos. 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45 & 47, on Sections B & C of INLAND LOT No. 51, belonging to the Portuguese Mission in China.

For Particulars, apply to

J. J. dos REMEDIOS & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, June 2, 1881.

21181

FOR SALE.

J. H. BAZLEY WHITE & BROTHERS' PORTLAND CEMENT.

Sole Agents for China,

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.

Hongkong, June 13, 1881.

21181

FOR SALE.

J. L. MUMM & Co.'s CHAMPAGNE.

Quarts.....\$18 per 1 doz. Cases.

Pints.....\$17 per 2 doz.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

Hongkong, February 2, 1880.

21181

FOR SALE.

J. BRADLEY SMITH & Co.

Hongkong, June 11, 1881.

21181

FOR SALE.

J. B. LUMM & Co.

Hongkong, June 14, 1881.

21181

CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

NOTICE.

POLICIES GRANTED at current rates

on MARINE RISKS to all parts of

the World. In accordance with the Com-

pany's Articles of Association, Two-thirds

of the Profits are distributed annually to

Contributors, whether Shareholders or not,

in proportion to the net amount of Premium

contributed by each, the remaining third

being carried to Reserve Fund.

J. BRADLEY SMITH,

Secretary.

Hongkong, April 8, 1881.

21182

To Let.

TO LET.

ROOMS in CLUB CHAMBERS, suitable for Offices or Chambers.

The BUNGALOW, No. 2, SHELLY STREET.

Apply to

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

Hongkong, June 18, 1881.

21181

TO LET.

No. 2, OLD BAILEY STREET.

And No. 6, PEDDAN'S HILL.

Apply to

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.

Hongkong, May 30, 1881.

21181

TO LET.

No. 2, OLD BAILEY STREET.

And No. 6, PEDDAN'S HILL.

Apply to

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.

Hongkong, June 18, 1881.

21181

Intimations.

NOTICE.

A N ENGLISH NURSE of Experience desires to find an ENGAGEMENT either in China or to accompany a family as Nurse on the voyage Home. Is also willing to be a Lady's maid.

Apply to "M. A. H." Office of this Paper.

Hongkong, June 29, 1881.

21181

CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

DEBENTURE LOAN for \$800,000.

COUPOONS for INTEREST falling due on 30th June 1881 will be Paid on Presentation at the Office of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, Hongkong, and after that Date.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,

General Agents.

Hongkong, June 25, 1881.

21181

NOTICE.

HONGKONG AND CHINA GAS COMPANY, LIMITED.

REDUCTION IN THE PRICE OF GAS.

FROM the 1st proximo and until further Notice, the Charge per 1,000 feet will be \$3.50, instead of \$4 as heretofore.

A. NEWTON,

Manager.

Hongkong, June 21, 1881.

21181

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned, who has for many years shown excellent work in POR-

TRATEUR to the Quia & Co.'s, has

ESTABLISHED a new STUDIO at No. 3

POTTERING STREET, opposite Messrs GRAB-

LING & CO.,

LIVINGSTON & CO.,

Hongkong, June 21, 1881.

21181

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POTTERING STREET, opposite Messrs GRAB-

LING & CO.,

L

For Sale.

MacEwen, Frickel & Co.
HAVE RECEIVED FOR SALE,
Recently arrived, Mail and
other Steamships.

**AMERICAN AND ENGLISH
GROCERIES,**
FRESH SUPPLIES RECEIVED BY EVERY
MAIL.

Eastern and California CHEESE,
Bonless CODFISH,
Prime HAMS and BACON,
Russian CAVIAR,
Eagle Brand Condensed MILK,
PEACH, and APPLE BUTTER,
Pickled OX-TONGUES,
PIG-PORK in kegs and pieces,
Family MACKEREL in 5 lb cans,
Beau Ideal SALMON in 5 lb cans,
Cutting's Desser FRUTS in 24 lb cans,
Assorted Canned VEGETABLES,
Potted SAUSAGE and Sausage
MEAT,
Stuffed PEPPERS,
Assorted PICKLES,
MINCEMEAT,
COMB HONEY in Original Frumes,
Richardson & Robbin's Celebrated Potted
MEATS.

Richardson & Robbin's Canned OYSTERS,
Lunch TONGUE,
Assorted American SYRUPS, for Sum-
mer Drinks,
McCarty's Sugar LEMONADE,
Clam CHOWDER,
Codfish BALLS,
Green TURTLE in 24 lb cans.

**CALIFORNIA
CRACKER
COMPANY'S BISCUITS** in 5 lb
tins, and loose,
Alphabetical BIS-
CUITS,
Fancy Sweet Mixed
BISCUITS,
Ginger CAKES,
Soda BISCUITS,
Oyster BISCUITS.

Cracked WHEAT,
OATMEAL,
HOMINY,
CORNMEAL,
BUCKWHEAT FLOUR,
RYE MEAL.

NEW BOOKS.
3,000 Numbers "FRANKLIN SQUARE" and
"SEASIDE" LIBRARIES, including
McCarthy's "HISTORY OF OUR OWN
TIMES," "ENDYMION," and
other recent Publications,
from 15 cents to 25
cents each.

HERBERT SPENCER'S COMPLETE WORKS
ON SYNTHETIC PHILOSOPHY,
IRVING'S COMPLETE WORKS,
HAWTHORNE'S COMPLETE WORKS,
EMERSON'S COMPLETE WORKS,
PRESCOTT'S COMPLETE WORKS,
EDGAR POE'S COMPLETE WORKS,
WILLIAMS' "MIDDLE KINGDOM,"
GRIPPIN'S "MIKADO'S EMPIRE,"
BANCROFT'S HISTORY OF THE UNITED
STATES.

HARPER'S HALF HOUR SERIES.
Medical WORKS,
School BOOKS.

Presentation BOOKS,
WORKS OF REFERENCE,
ALBUMS of Music, with Words,
ALBUMS of Pianoforte Pieces,
Sheet MUSIC,
Photo. ALBUMS, Etc., Etc.,
REVOLVING BOOK CASES.

STATIONERY.
For LADIES, and OFFICE use.
OFFICE REQUISITES of every description.

**SPECIALLY SELECTED
CIGARS.**
WINES, SPIRITS, BEER AND
AERATED WATERS.

**CROSSE & BLACKWELL
and**
JOHN MOIR & SON'S
FAMOUS HOUSEHOLD STORES.

TESSONNEAU'S DESSERT FRUITS,
SAVOURY PATE,
GAME PATE,
PORT PATE,
OX PALATES.

HUNG (Hambo's) BEEF,
TRIPE.

FRUITS for Ices,
SHERBET,
COCONUTINA,
VAN HOUTTE COCOA,
EFES COCOA,
ROBINSON'S GROAT,
GELATINE.

Russia OX-TONGUES,
French PLUMS,
PATE DE FOIE GRAS,
SARDINES,
Ham TONGUE and
Chicken SAUSAGE.

ASPARAGUS,
MACCARRONI,
VERMICELLI,
SAUSAGES,
MEATS.

SOUPS, &c., &c.

SHIPCHANDLERY of every Description,
RIGGING and SAIL-MAKING promptly
executed.

Hongkong, June 20, 1881.

Mails.



**MITSU BISHI MAIL STEAMSHIP
COMPANY.**
STEAM TO YOKOHAMA VIA KOBE
AND INLAND SEA.

THE S. S. TAKASAGO MARU, Capt.
YOUNG, due here on or about the
4th July, will be despatched as above
on SATURDAY, the 9th July, at Day-
light.

Cargo received on board and Parcels at
the Office up to 6 p.m. of 8th July.

No Bill of Lading signed under \$2
prepaid.

All Claims must be settled on board
before delivery is taken, otherwise they
will not be recognized.

RATES OF PASSAGE

Cabin Steerage.
To KOBE.....\$ 60.....\$ 15
YOKOHAMA, NAGASAKI.....75.....20
SHANGHAI OR YOKOHAMA.....120.....40
KOREA.....90.....30

A REDUCTION is made on RETURN CABIN
PARCELS.

Cargo and Passengers for Nagasaki
will be transhipped to the Shanghai Mail
Steamer at Kobe.

For further Particulars, apply at the
Company's OFFICES, PRAYA CENTRAL, West
Corner Pottinger Street.

H. J. H. TRIPP,
Agent.
Hongkong, June 28, 1881.

NOTICE.

**COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.**
PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS:

STEAM FOR
SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,
POINT DE GALLE, ADEN, SUEZ, ISMAILIA, PORT
SAID, NAPLES, AND MARSEILLE;

ALSO,
PONDICHERRY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA
AND ALL INDIAN PORTS.

**ON THURSDAY, the 14th day of July,
1881, at Noon, the Company's S. S.
YANGTSE, Commandant PELLERIN,
with MALES, PASSENGERS, and
CARGO, will have this Port for the
above places.**

Cargo and Specie will be registered for
London as well as for Marseilles, and ac-
cepted in transit through Marseilles for the
principal places of Europe.

Shipping Orders will be granted until
Noon of 14th.

Cargo will be received on board until 4
p.m., Specie and Parcels until 3 p.m., on
the 13th of July, 1881. (Parcels are not
to be sent on board; they must be left at
the Agency's Office.)

Contents and value of Packages are re-
quired.

For further particulars, apply at the
Company's Office.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.
Hongkong, July 1, 1881.

INSURANCES.

**THE SOUTH BRITISH FIRE AND
MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY
OF NEW ZEALAND.**

CAPITAL £1,000,000 (One Million Sterling).
Estimated Liability of Shareholders.

**THE Undersigned having been appointed
AGENTS for the above Company are
prepared to accept FIRE and MARINE
RISKS at Current Rates, allowing usual
Discounts.**

**GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.,
Hongkong, July 1, 1881.**

**THE MAN ON INSURANCE COM-
PANY, LIMITED.**

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

CAPITAL, FULLY SUBSCRIBED, £1,000,000.
Board of Directors.

KOH MOY WAH, Esq.; Ching-tung,
Bai Hui, Esq.; LEONG'ON, Esq.; CHONG PENG, Esq.;
KUAN HOI CHUNG, Esq.;
KUO YIN KAI, Esq., Manager.
WOO LIN YUEN, Esq., Assistant to Manager.

WOO LIN YUEN, Esq., Secretary.

HEAD OFFICE, Queen's Road, W.,
Hongkong, March 14, 1881.

1881.

**YANGTSE INSURANCE
ASSOCIATION.**

CAPITAL (Fully Paid-up)... £1s. 420,000.00
PERMANENT RESERVE... £1s. 230,000.00
SPECIAL RESERVE FUND... £1s. 288,936.17

TOTAL CAPITAL and Ac-
cumulations, 2nd... £1s. 938,936.17
April, 1881.

Directors.

F. B. FORBES, Esq., Chairman.

W. M. BOYD, Esq.; W. C. MEYERHORN, Esq.

J. H. PINCKYON, Esq.; F. D. HITCH, Esq.

HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.

Messrs RUSSELL & Co., Secretaries.

LONDON BRANCH:

Messrs BARING BROTHERS & Co.,
Bankers.

RICHARD BLACKWELL, Esq., Agent,
68 and 69, Cornhill.

POLICIES issued on Marine Risks to all
parts of the World.

Subject to a Charge of 12% for Interest
on Shareholders' Capital, all the Profits
of the UNDERWRITING BUSINESS are an-
nually distributed among all Contributors
of Business in proportion to the Premiums
paid by them.

**RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.**

Hongkong, May 20, 1881.

1881.

Insurances.

NOTICE.

**THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED,**
is prepared to accept First-class Risks at
1/2 net per Annum, and other INSURANCES
at Proportionate Rates.

Shareholders are reminded that the Directors
have the power of distributing a certain
proportion of the ascertained profits among
such Shareholders as have contributed
most to the Company.

AGENCIES at all the Treaty Ports of
China and Japan, and at Singapore, Saigon,
Penang, and Manila.

A. G. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

Hongkong, May 19, 1881.

Entertainment.

GARRISON THEATRE

SATURDAY EVENING,

July 9th, 1881,
COMPLIMENTARY BENEFIT

TO
MISS MATTIE TAYLOR.

MATTIE'S BENEFIT, JULY 9th,
THE EVE OF HER BIRTHDAY.

"OUR BOARDING SCHOOL,"

SATURDAY EVENING,
GARRISON THEATRE.

SECURE YOUR SEATS
FOR MATTIE'S BENEFIT.

THE IRISH CARMAN

AT MATTIE'S BENEFIT.

KITCHEN OPERA, SATURDAY,
IN GARRISON THEATRE.

PRICES OF ADMISSION:

Reserved Seats, - - - - - \$2.00
Second Seats, - - - - - \$1.00
Soldiers and Sailors in Uniform, 50c.

Tickets obtainable at Messrs KELLY &
WATSON, and at the Door on the Night of
Performance.

Hongkong, July 6, 1881.

3000

July 10, 1881.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

July 7, Ningpo, British steamer, 761,
R. Cass, Shanghai July 3, General—
SIEMENS & Co.

July 7, Shoo Tien, Ammanito steamer, 93,
Mu, Quang Lam July 1, Sugar—
CAPTAIN.

July 7, Yangtze, British steamer, from
Canton.

July 7, Choi-to, Chinese gunboat, from
a cruise.

July 7, Date, British steamer, 650, J.
Thompson, Bangkok June 29, Rice—
YUEN FAT HONG.

July 7, 4 p.m., Fuyue, Chinese steamer,
920, Croud, Shanghai July 3, 4 a.m.,
July 7, 4 p.m., Fuyue, Chinese steamer, 1000,
Li Ton Tac, Toulon July 1, Sugar.

DEPARTURES.

July 7, Bothwell Castle, for Shanghai.

7, H. Uppmann, for Havre.

7, Norsmann, for Bangkok.

7, Tay Watt, for Swatow.

7, China, for Shanghai.

7, Nepal, for Europe, &c.

7, Europe, Russian cruiser, for Singa-
pore.

7, Ningpo, for Canton.

7, Hui Yuen, for Shanghai.

CLEARED.

Xenia, for Vancouver's Island.

H. H. McGillicuddy, for Manila.

Yangtze, for Shanghai.

Conquest, for Holloway, &c.

Norden, for Newchwang.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Ningpo, from Shanghai, Dr Eastlacke,
and 13 Chinese.

Per Fuyue, from Shanghai, Mr Lawford,
and 61 Chinese.

DEPARTED.

Per Nepal, from Hongkong; for Singa-

SALES OF LANDED PROPERTY IN HONGKONG.

SALES FROM FOREIGNERS TO CHINESE, SINCE THE LAST LIST WAS ISSUED.

Lot 133—2 Houses (late Temperance Hall) at Stanley St., and 2 Houses in Wellington Street.

Lot 32 C—One shop No. 93, Jervois St. " " " " 60, Bonham Strand " " " " 101, " " " " 152, " " " " 213, " " " " 84, Winglok St. [The above Lots were sold for \$95,000 for the Lot, and since the Transfer day, the 4 above shops in Chinese Town were sold for \$84,000].

Lot 1—25 shops and 2 passages in Bonham Strand and Winglok St. \$150,000.

Lot 10—4 Star Hotel, Queen's Road Central, No. 110, \$37,000.

Lot 729—Government Ground at Bowring, \$10,025.

Lot 797—3 houses and 12 Chinese houses at Pokfulam Road, \$35,000.

Lot 175 and 176—8 houses Peel Street, \$28,000.

Lots 188 and 189—Known as "Howard's Godowns," counting 12 godowns at Praya West, \$103,000.

Lot 28 Section—One shop, Jervois St. No. 77, " " " " 847,000.

Lot 206 Section—One shop, Praya No. 97, " " " " 142, " " " " 142, Section—One shop, Bonham Stand No. 44, " " " " 142.

SALES FROM CHINESE TO CHINESE.

Lot 639—22 houses at Second Street, \$18,600.

M Lot 52—19 shops at Endicott's Lane, \$57,000.

M Lot 52 Section—2 shops at Praya, \$30,000.

M Lot 34—2 shops, Praya, 114, " " " " 115, " " " " 213, " " " " 85,000.

" " " " 117, " " " " 119, " " " " 4 shops, Bonham Strand, 84, 86, 88, " " " " 84,000.

Lots 363, 366, 367, 368, 381, 382, and 688—Containing 25 newly-built houses, \$175,000.

Lots 634 and 680—44 houses, 2nd and 3rd Streets, \$31,000.

Lot 28 Section—2 shops, Jervois St. and Bonham Strand, \$46,000.

M Lots 8 and 8 A—5 shops, Bonham Strand Nos. 2 to 18, and 8 shops Mercer St., Nos. 23 to 30, were sold for \$123,000.

Lot 205—11 houses at Gage St., \$60,000.

M Lot—3 shops at Bonham Strand, \$41,000.

M Lot 32, 153, and 213—4 shops Bonham Strand, 606, 101, Winglok, 84, Jervois, 93, \$84,000.

12 shops at the Praya West, lately the Pacific Mail office, \$123,000.

57 Section—15 shops, Queen's Road, West, \$72,000.

M 165 Section—13 shops, Praya West, and Lane, \$58,000.

M 165 B—4 shops, Queen's Road, West, 273, 275, 277, 279, \$29,000.

M 227 Section—3 shops, Praya West, 24, 25, 26, \$60,000.

M 98—4 shops, and godowns, Queen's Road and Praya West, \$42,000.

Also large transactions in small sales.

SUPREME COURT IN BANKRUPTCY.

(Before His Honor the Acting Chief Justice, P. Shonien, Esq.)

Thursday, July 7.

Dhaimdoss Dajoomull, bankrupt, came up for his final order of discharge, which was granted.

The Judge said some trouble had been experienced in getting his account translated. They had not, however, thought it worth while to detain him any longer, but he must say, that his tracing had been very recklessly.

Mr Dennis appeared for the applicant.

Ramon Nicasio Orozco, bankrupt, who had been engaged in introducing Mexican dollars into Manila, and who came up some time ago for his final examination, which was postponed in order that the bankrupt might learn something about his own account, has, it seems, taken himself unto Manila.

The Acting Registrar to-day asked for authority to take the bankrupt to surrender. This was granted.

Police Intelligence.

(Before the Hon. M. S. Tennyson, Acting Police Magistrate.)

Thursday, July 7.

THEFT OF LICHES.

Two Chinamen, residents from the 1st of July, charged with stealing liches from a garden, were ordered to enter into recognisance, with two sureties of \$100, to be of good behaviour for six months or be committed for two months.

ASSAULT AND OBSTRUCTION.

Mok Achi was charged with causing an obstruction, and also with assaulting the police in the execution of their duty.

P. 303 said the defendant lying on the street smoking opium. "I told him if he wanted to smoke, " said he, " he was better go inside. Witness was told he was too sleepy. The defendant also struck him.

Paid \$1 or exposure in the stocks for four hours.

THEFT OF A HAIR PIN.

Mak Atim was convicted on evidence of having stolen an earthenware ornament, and was sentenced to seven days in gaol, the first six in solitary confinement.

ASSAULTING THE POLICE.

Septimus Mees, third engineer of the S. S. *Napier*, and George Scott, second engineer of the S. S. *Orion*, were charged with assaulting the police.

The two defendants and another not in Court had gone down in the water-side, where a police boat was lying, and asked to be put on board their steamers. The police refused, but the second defendant jumped into the boat, called upon his companions to do likewise, and compelled them to pull to two steamers and then to a third, which the defendants went on board of. Witness went on board the steamer last night with Surgeon Gordon, and identified the defendants as the men who had gone on board their boat.

The first defendant was discharged, and the second was fined \$5 for disorderly conduct.

ASSAULT.

Mahomed Dan, watchman, Sam-shui-poo Docks, was charged with assaulting Ng Akian, Chinese servant to Mr Scott, Manager of the Sam-shui-poo Docks.

Complainant said that on the night of the 6th of June about eleven o'clock, while going to a shed to sleep, he received a blow on the side from some one. Defendants began to abuse him, and then knew who it was. Witness came out, and his master came down. Witness was laid up for a week from the effects of the blow. Defendant had been witness ill-will since he had reported him sleeping at the gate.

Mr Scott gave corroborative evidence. Defendant said he thought the complainant was a thief.

He was fined \$5 for the assault, and had to pay \$5 compensation to the defendant.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE COMET.

(To the Editor of the "SHANGHAI COURIER.")

Sir,—The Rev. R. E. Dechevres, Director of the Siccawei Observatory, in his interesting and learned remarks upon the new Comet, published in your issue of Thursday last, says:—"The Comet now shining in the neighbourhood of the North Pole first appeared on the 24th or 25th instant. That it must have been observed by means of instruments before it became visible to the naked eye, is probable, for such an object can hardly escape the attention of numerous observers especially addicted to searching for Comets and studying their motions. It had not, however, been discovered on the 10th May, for the Boston astronomical journal, *Science Observer*, of that date does not mention it; and the scientific reviews received from Europe by the last mail are equally silent about it."On reference to *Nature* for May 19th, however, I find that the new Comet has not been neglected by European savants, and that it is called by them Swift's Comet, 1881. According to the journal above given, M. Bigourdan has calculated the following elements of this Comet, from the Dunc Echit observation on May 2nd, and observations made at Paris on May 6th and 7th:—

PEHINELION PASSAGE, 1881.

May 21/1881, Paris, M. Longitude of perihelion, 110° 24' 5" 1881. Ascending node, 11° 24' 5" 1881. Inclination, 7° 57' 58" D. L. distance in perihelion, 97,658.

MOTION-DIRECT.

Though observations will not be longer practicable in these latitudes, the Comet may, perhaps, be observed in the southern hemisphere, it being understood that telegrams have been sent to the Cape and to Australia (by *Telegraph*—C. G. Cowell)—with this object.

According to the above, on July 9th the comet will have one-fifth of the intensity of light on the night of discovery.

There is no close resemblance of elements to those of any Comet previously calculated.

Yours faithfully,

A. JUNR.

Shanghai, 2nd July, 1881.

THE TEA TRADE.

Editor of the *London and China Express*.

London, May 20.

Sir,—Notice was taken in the public room yesterday, and mention made by a dealer, of the inquisitive practice on the part of importers or shippers from China of marking tea. The occasion was the sale by auction of a parcel of low Canton new make Congou. There is little doubt but a very large proportion of the tea was old season's, and the complaint with the account of the sale in the public press gives people in London and the purchase an entirely erroneous idea of actual facts and tendency is to lower the basis of prices for all good old teas.

The argument is, that the tea will be bought at a high price, old season's tea, generally depreciated at the close of a season, ought to be bought, at any rate, equally cheap. We have long been accustomed to have the commonest rubbish described as "fine" or "finest new season" Moning or Kaiwo," but it is right that a stand should be made and a line drawn somewhere, or the morality of the tea trade will be altogether a matter of history.—I am, &c.

"THE OLD MAN."

(Mercury.)

The Trueman Scheme is to be submitted to the Ratemakers at a public meeting on the 11th prox., and mention made at a dealer, of the inquisitive practice on the part of importers or shippers from China of marking tea.

The occasion was the sale by auction of a parcel of low Canton new make Congou. There is little doubt but a very large proportion of the tea was old season's, and the complaint with the account of the sale in the public press gives people in London and the purchase an entirely erroneous idea of actual facts and tendency is to lower the basis of prices for all good old teas.

The argument is, that the tea will be bought at a high price, old season's tea, generally depreciated at the close of a season, ought to be bought, at any rate, equally cheap.

We have long been accustomed to have the commonest rubbish described as "fine" or "finest new season" Moning or Kaiwo," but it is right that a stand should be made and a line drawn somewhere, or the morality of the tea trade will be altogether a matter of history.—I am, &c.

"THE OLD MAN."

(Mercury.)

The special meeting of ratemakers is convened for Monday, the 14th July, proximate, to consider the question of the introduction of tramways into the Settlement by a proposed Company, the names of the Provisional Committee of which appear in an advertisement on our front page. For the large number of firms and other ratemakers who have approved of a special meeting being called for this purpose, it seems highly probable that ere many months have passed a system of tramways in the Settlement will have been inaugurated.

One of our readers writes us as follows:—

"I think you have been misinformed about the Woosung railway scheme. I am informed that it has been decided on by the Woosung Taung's Memorial on the *Tea-hui* question. We simply got the *Sheu Pou*'s version translated, and put into the *gong* for it to come into the world.The *Sheu Pou*'s version stated that the *Tea-hui* should be the same on native as on foreign opinion, viz.: 150 taels per cwt.The *Daily News* says exactly the reverse; it says the *Tea-hui* on native opinion is lower in proportion to foreign, whereas the *Tea-hui* recommends that it should be the same on a lower value; therefore higher in proportion; the native drug being cheaper, he argues, it can better bear the duty. We have perfect confidence in the accuracy of our translator, and we have since made enquiries of another gentleman, a competent Anglo-Chinese scholar. The *Daily News* has perhaps got a different version.

NINGPO.

1st July.

A correspondent favours us with the following:—The Island called Nen-ki, about one hundred miles to the South of Ningpo, (which was taken possession of by pirates, some years ago, and which they kept despite the efforts of the Imperial forces to dislodge them, until the Anglo-contingent was sent down from Ningpo, when the Chinese Mandarins followed the rebels to pass through the foreign cemetery.) Yesterday the jury were again summoned to take the evidence of a seaman belonging to the U.S.S. *Richmond*, who was deposed shortly previous to his falling overboard.

The Chinese down here, regard the appearance of the Comet as an omen of ill for the Empire, one having appeared before the last rebellion.

The Mandarins are not carrying out the prohibition against head shaving with the same rigour, which is being shown in other places of the Empire, only those who are literary men, or engaged about the yamen, are compelled to do likewise. The common people are not required to go with shaved heads, and they are not required to give the barbers their rice if their shops are not to be closed for the next hundred days.

(Courier.)

From observations taken on board a river steamer during the last three nights, it appears that the angular distance between the Pole Star and the Comet is decreasing; in other words the Comet is advancing towards the star. At 2 a.m. on the 20th June, the distance was 27 deg. 6' min; on the following morning, 24 deg. 22' min. This morning, 21 deg. 29' min.

The "Golden Star" Line has been very unfortunate with its steamers on the China coast lately. It is only a short time ago that the *Bellona* struck a rock necessitating extensive repairs, and now the *Olympic* has arrived with damaged machinery.The hearing of the *Hongkong-Loyang* Colliery case is set for next Wednesday, the 13th instant at 10 o'clock a.m.We notice (2nd) the arrival of the *Telegraph* repairing steamer *Stornoway*, for the Great Northern Telegraph Company. She takes the place of the *H. C. Orsted*, which will return to Europe in two or three weeks.

On Thursday (20th June) a Chinese junk brought some Loochow sailors into Shing-chu, who had been shipwrecked off the China coast.

The Loochow were not,

arrogant assertion on the part of the Japanese representatives here of the superiority of their country over the Loochow; but it is certainly rather an awkward proceeding.

It is open to a double construction; either it is an assertion of right which the Japanese have never surrendered and a position from which they have never receded, or it can be construed into a defense.

When affairs are *sub judice*, though the sword may have to be the arbiter, and when interests are at stake, the parties will probably feel warm on a subject, in

which the world is not agreed.

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The *Mercury</i*

